

# TRIBUTARY



Water Education and Conservation Newsletter

Summer 2003

## Water Conservation Plans

**By Molly Waters, Water Conservation  
Coordinator, DWRe**

In 1998 and 1999, the Utah legislature passed and revised a law requiring water agencies with more than 500 culinary connections to create and submit to the Division of Water Resources (DWRe) a plan outlining the agency's plans for water conservation. These plans must be updated every five years. This law became known as the Water Conservation Plan Act.

While initial compliance at the April 1999 deadline was low, plans have continued to trickle into DWRe's offices. To date, about 70 percent of compulsory agencies have complied. However, the 30 percent of agencies who haven't complied represent over 20 percent of the state's population.

At the time of the deadline, it was fairly unclear about what exactly was required in a Water Conservation Plan. Since that time, DWRe has traveled around the state holding workshops (many in conjunction with Rural Water) to share information on how to create a Water Conservation Plan.

With the five-year update requirement coming up, DWRe has made available a host of materials to help agencies in the creation of their plans. The state's water conservation website, [www.conservewater.utah.gov](http://www.conservewater.utah.gov) is where these materials can be found. There is also a list of compliant agencies, as well as a list of those agencies still without plans.

DWRe has also created its own Municipal & Industrial (M&I) Water Conservation Plan, which can be viewed at this website as well. This plan outlines the State's role in water conservation, as well as makes recommendations for water agencies to help them achieve their water conservation goals.

If you have questions concerning your compliance, or wish to receive water conservation materials by mail, please contact Molly Waters at (801) 538-7254 or [mollywaters@utah.gov](mailto:mollywaters@utah.gov).

## DWRe Hires New Employee

**By Molly Waters, Water Conservation  
Coordinator, DWRe**

The Utah Division of Water Resources Water Conservation, Education and Special Studies section is pleased to announce the hiring of a new engineer, Marisa Egbert.

Marisa currently works in the Resource Inventories and Special Studies branch of the Utah Division of Water Resources. She most recently worked for a transportation design firm in Salt Lake City. However, most of her career was spent in Florida working for Geotechnical/Environmental firms.

Marisa spent her junior and senior high school years in Chile, graduating from an international high school. After returning to the US, she attended Salt Lake Community College and Utah State University. She received her Bachelor's degree at USU in Civil Engineering and is licensed as a Professional Engineer.

Marisa will be working with communities in developing water conservation plans, as well as conducting studies regarding water conservation technology.



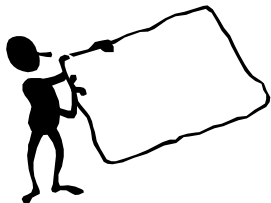
# Water Education Update

**By Rick Webster, Water Education Coordinator,  
DWR**

Water Education has been busy making changes to its program by changing the Young Artists Water Education Poster contest.

Changes in the state CORE curriculum and decline participation gave us a chance to reassess the contest. We wanted to get your thoughts on the contest so that we could improve it. We have made significant changes we think will make it more meaningful to you and your students.

The contest will be directed solely toward the 4<sup>th</sup> grade. It will run from January 1<sup>st</sup> until February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2004. We will be mailing entry packets in December.



The state has been divided into 11 hydrologic river basins. The schools within each basin will only compete with other schools within their basin. The

winning school in each basin will receive \$125 cash and the winning student will receive a \$150 savings bond. The winning students, their parents, teacher, and principal, will be honored at a banquet. A state grand prizewinner will be chosen from among the basin winners. The grand prizewinner will receive a week's stay on a houseboat at Lake Powell.

Each school will need to select from among its entries one poster to compete for basin winner. The posters may range in size from 11x17 inches to 22x28 inches, including the mat. They will be judged according to the theme concept and, secondly, on artistic ability. Every student that participates will receive a certificate.

Based on the feedback we have received we feel that these changes will enhance the program. One of our main objectives is to create a program that could serve as curriculum enhancement rather than "just another contest".

If you have any questions regarding this year's poster contest, please contact me at 801-538-7299 or [rickwebster@utah.gov](mailto:rickwebster@utah.gov).



## Calendar of Events

### ***Water Conservation Classes, Workshops, Etc.***

*For general information regarding water conservation and education events, please visit our Events Calendar located at [www.conservewater.utah.gov/calendar](http://www.conservewater.utah.gov/calendar).*

### **Oct 15 – 17, 2003**

#### **Utah League of Cities and Towns Annual Water Conference**

This is the annual Water Conference held by ULCT in Springdale, Utah. A great spattering of topics from environmental regulation, to quality growth, to water conservation. For more information, contact ULCT at 801-531-1872.

### **Nov 6 – 8, 2003**

#### **Utah Society of Environmental Educators Annual Conference**

The theme is Building Community Partnerships and the hope is that by sharing tools and experiences, identifying resources and materials, and building networks, environmental education can be improved along with the world in which we live. The conference will be held in downtown Salt Lake City. For more information, contact Eric Chandler at 801-328-1549.

